

Britton, SD: The celebration of life for Ramona [Smith] Pitkin will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 16, 2011, at First Lutheran Church of Britton. Rev. Terrill Sorensen will officiate. Inurnment of her cremains will take place at a later date in the Union Cemetery in Groton, SD.

A prayer service will be held Friday at 5:00 p.m. at the Price Funeral Chapel of Britton, followed by visitation until 7:00 p.m.

Mona passed away Wednesday, April 13, 2011, at Wheatcrest Hills in Britton at the age of 81.

Ramona Gail Aves was born May 22, 1929, at Groton, SD to Kenneth Paul and Donna Marie (Gibbs) Aves. She moved with her family to San Francisco, CA where she spent her early childhood. She returned to the Aberdeen area where she completed her education.

On November 23, 1946, she married Gerald Sherman Smith in Aberdeen. They had seven children. While living in Aberdeen, Mona worked for many years as a Nursing Assistant at St. Luke's and Dakota Midland Hospitals. In 1976 she moved to Britton.

On March 30, 1979, Mona married Charles E. Pitkin. He passed away on May 21, 1994. Mona continued to make her home in Britton, and became a resident of Wheatcrest Hills in January of 2006.

Mona was a member of the First Lutheran Church of Britton, and had been active in the WELCA organization. She also had been a hospice volunteer. Mona was known for her love of dancing. While living in San Francisco, she performed at the 1939 World's Fair. She was an avid bird watcher. She loved to travel and spend her winters in south Texas. Perhaps above everything else, family was the most important thing to Mona.

Grateful for having shared her life are her children: Ken (Char) Smith of Sioux Falls, SD; Barb (Neil Peters) Dahme of Britton; Steve Smith of Britton, Jeri Smith of Neshanic Station, NJ; Mitch (Gloria Robideaux) Smith of Yankton, SD; Lynn (Randy) Carlson of Lake City, SD; a daughter-in-law, Vicky Smith of Britton; two step-children: Don (Suzie) Pitkin and Judy (Jim) Blohm; 14 grandchildren: Nicholle (Anthony) Rijken, Michelle (Brady) McWhorter, Kristin (Kevin Daily) Anderson; Timothy (Lisa) Dahme, Troy (Lisa) Dahme, D.J. Makens, Amie (Phil) Wengryn, Michael (Becky) Makens, Jessica Ray, Allison Ray, Ashley Ray, Angela (Craig) Grupe, Ryan (Jennifer) Carlson and Brody Carlson; 19 great-grandchildren; 10 step-grandchildren; 21 step-great-grandchildren; and a sister, Joanne (Harvey) Thayer of Britton.

Waiting to welcome her home are her parents, her husband, Charlie Pitkin, her son, Doug Smith and a step-grandchild.

An online guestbook and obituary are available at www.pricefuneralchapel.net.